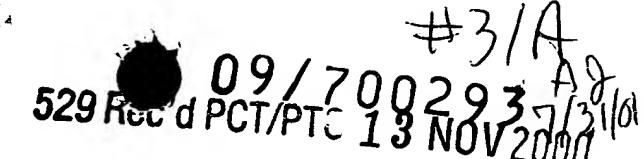
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BEST AVAILABLE CC.

International Application : PCT/EP99/03255

Attorney Docket No.: BM45321



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ruelle

Serial No.: Unknown Group Art Unit No.: Unknown

Filed: Herewith Examiner: Unknown

For: BASB029 Polynucleotide(s) and Polypeptides from Neisseria Meningitidis

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment into the record of the above-identified patent application before the calculation of fees.

In the Specification:

Please insert the pages containing the sequence listings that are submitted herewith after the figures.

In the Claims:

Please delete the claims of the application as filed in the PCT and substitute therefor:

- 26. An isolated polypeptide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of
 - (a) an amino acid sequence which has at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NOs:2 or 4;
 - (b) an immunogenic fragment of the amino acid sequence of (a), wherein the immunogenic fragment is at least 90% identical to an aligned contiguous segment of SEQ ID NOs:2 or 4; and
 - (c) an immunogenic fragment of the amino acid sequence of (a) that matches an aligned contiguous segment of SEQ ID NOs:2 or 4 with no more than five single amino acid substitutions, deletions or additions;

wherein the isolated polypeptide, when administered to a subject in a suitable composition which can include an adjuvant, or a suitable carrier coupled to the polypeptide, induces an immune response that recognizes a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NOs:2 or 4.

27. The isolated polypeptide of claim 26, wherein the immune response recognizes an antigen having molecular weight 65-70kD (by SDS PAGE) in *Neisseria meningitidis* strains H44/76, M97 250987, BZ10, BZ198, EG328, and ATCC 13090.